

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reexamination and reconsideration of this application, withdrawal of the rejections, and formal notification of the allowability of all claims as now presented are earnestly solicited in light of the remarks that follow.

Claims 1-20 are now pending. Claims 8-20 have been added herein. Support for the new claims may be found throughout the specification, and particularly on pages 6-7 (claims 9-16), 10 (claim 8), and 13-20 (claims 17-20). It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by these amendments.

The specification is objected to due to a minor informality. Specifically, the Examiner notes that the type of average molecular weight is not set forth on page 3. In response, Applicants have amended the specification on pages 3, 6, and 7 to clarify that number average molecular weight is intended. This would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art because "M_n" (i.e., number average MW) is referenced in the examples (see Examples 1-6). In light of the amendment, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the objection to the specification.

Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner indicates claims 1-4 are allowed. However, Claims 5-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite due to the lack of clarity as to the type of molecular weight in the specification. Since this has been addressed as noted above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Applicants have also submitted herewith a certified copy of the foreign priority document, a certified translation of the priority document, and an Information Disclosure Statement listing art already of record in the present application through its association with the parent application 10/090,525. It is requested that the Examiner initial each document to ensure that the listed art will be printed on the face of the patent.

It is believed that all pending claims are now in condition for immediate allowance. It is requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned should the Examiner have any comments or suggestions in order to expedite examination of this case.

Appl. No.: 10/826,669

Amdt. dated 05/02/2006


Reply to Office action of February 1, 2006



It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper.

However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,


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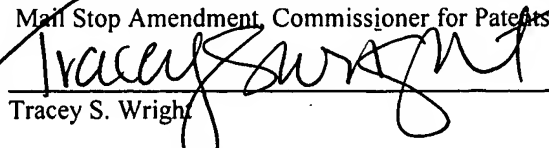
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Date of Deposit May 2, 2006

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